procure new aircraft for VVIPs and other dignitaries. The cost and other details would be known only after finalisation of negotiations with the vendor.

Indo-British cooperation in civil aviation sector

†3262. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Britain propose to co-operate in civil aviation sector;

(b) if so, the details of such plan; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) As per the existing co-operation in civil aviation sector between India and Britain, Air India is operating 11 services per week, British Airways is operating 18 services per week and Virgin Atlantic is operating 3 services per week in India-Britain sector. However, Bilateral air services talks between the two countries is held from time to time to review the air services matters.

FDI in airports

3263. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no proposals for Foreign Direct Investment in airports have been received although Government have repeatedly emphasized that it would allow 74 per cent of FDI in airports and even 100 per cent in green field ventures;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that under the Airports Authority Act the AAI is the only body authorised to build and operate airports and, therefor, prospective investors are reluctant to commit their investments without the enabling legal provisions; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to remove such disabilities to encourage inflow investments?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.